

23/NAS

FROM
KOOKAS TO GANDHI JI

Prof. Dr. Harnam Singh Shan
Principal Project Investigator
U.G.C. Research Project on Sikhism
605, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Composed by
NAUNIHAL SINGH LAYAL

3163

Proprietor
The British Furniture Mfg. Co.
42-G, Connaught Circus,
NEW DELHI



I N D E X

	Pages
1. Brief Life Sketch of Satguru Ram Singh Ji ..	3— 5
2. Aims & ^b Objects of his Mission	6— 7
3. From Kookas to Gandhiji ..	8—12
4. Mahatma Gandhi ..	13—15
5. The Rising Sun of the East —(Pt. Nehru) ..	16

Prof. Dr. Harbom Singh Shao
Principal Project Investigator
U.G.C. Research Project on Sikhism
605, Sector 16, Chandigarh.



BRIEF LIEE SKETCH OF SATGURU RAM SINGH JI

1. Shri Satguru Ram Singh was born in 1815, in the village of "Bheni" (Distt. Ludhiana) in the province of Punjab. His father a village architect and Engineer, was S. Jassa Singh, and his mother was Mata Sada Kaur.
2. At the age of 22 to 30 (from 1837 to 1845) he served in the forces of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, and was attached to the regiment known as "Nihal Singh Regiment".
3. In 1841 he went to Peshawar along with this regiment, and here he met Satguru Balik Singh ji, at Hazraun, who transmitted his spiritual powers into him.
4. December 18th, 1845, after the battle of Mudki, he left Military services and returned to his birth place.
5. After this he opened a small shop of cloth and iron in the village. He made Bheni as his headquarters to

start his movement and mission of freedom in the land of five rivers. He made a tour in the province of the Punjab and visited Gurdawaras, and awakened the sleeping spirit of Sikhism, after a period of 158 years since Shri Guru Gobind Singh gave a birth to Khalsa Panth.

6. July 3rd, 1863, Satguru Ram Singh and his governors, known as (subas) were placed under detention in this village. His movement was strictly restricted. Bheni (so known as Bheni Sahib afterwards) was well guarded by punitive police.
7. 17th January 1872, after the movement of Maler Kotla, his 80 followers, including two boys of 12 years age were shot dead by Cannons, without any trial ; and Shri Satguru Ram Singh was arrested the very night.
8. 18th January 1872, Satguru Ram Singh was deported to Rangoon en route Allahabad. His followers known as Kookas or Namdharis were declared the 1st revolutioners in India. His

younger brother Baba Hari Singh ji, was recognised as Satguru afterwards.

9. At present H. H. Maharaj Shri Satguru Partap Singh ji, is the successor in the line. Maharaj Nihal Singh ji, the younger brother of the present Guru; equally shared the hands of congress in the struggle of freedom for the country. In 1930, at Lahore session of all India congress, and in 1932, when he was the dictator of the Punjab Provincial Congress Committee, was arrested as political prisoner, and remained in the jail of Gujrat for about two years with Shri Abdul Ghaffar Khan and Dr. Ansari.

AIMS & OBJECTS OF HIS MISSION

1. Shri Satguru Ram Singh used to say. "It is better to die, then to lead a life of slavery and bondage". Keeping this point in view, he started the following movements.
1. By-cotting the British goods, culture and civilization, (particularly, courts and their education). This is why Kookas, were and are found very few in the Government service.
2. Non-cooperation with the British Government.
3. Civil disobedience, in the true sense of the world, *i.e.* to fight with non-violence.
4. Quit India theory was boldly preached to the British. They can stay as best friends and guests but not as rulers.
5. Formation of Kookas Foj—which used to drill with staffs in place of rifles. The army was well-disciplined in the art of non-violence also.
6. Kookas postal system, by which postal Dak used to be delivered on foot by his followers from village to village.

Finding many social evils being prevailing in the country, he stressed on meditation and Bhagti. Meditation and devotion he found the only moral medicines, for the moral and spiritual upliftment of mankind.

1. Protection of the weak, and the Cow. To injure any life by pen, tongue or arm, is a sin.
2. Prohibited the use of intoxicated things, and any sort of meat and wine.
3. Performance of Hawans was revived.
4. Prohibited early marriage or sale of girls.
5. Purda system among women was removed, and the women were given equality with man in social life. Women among Sikhs were given the equal right for taking Pauhal (amrit) which was not permitted even by Guru Gobind Singh ji.

In short, he believed in simple living, simple eating, and high thinking. A man without a burning spark of freedom in his heart is nothing better than a lump of clay. Freedom he said, is the birth right of every man.

FROM KOOKAS TO GANDHI JI

In the middle of the 19th century,
the British had the strongest hold
in the land of India,

The influence of the British rule,
culture, and civilization, had gone
deep in the land of India

So much so, that the British rule
seemed to remain for ever
in the land of India

And thus the British Empire was
called, as the greatest empire, in
and outside the land of India.

On which the Sun was never to set,
become the saying in the History
of the World and India,

* * * *

When such was the condition, of the
Indians under, the British rule,
in the land of India,

A reformer, a bold reformer was,
then appeared in the land of India ;

In the village of "Bheni", in the
 Punjab, named as "Ram Singh"
 in the land of India,
 He strongly voiced against the
 British rule, and culture, in the
 land of India.

* * * *

Ram Singh was a true devotee of
 God and became a spiritual head,
 of the Kookas in the land of India.

His spiritual power gathered around
 him, a lot of followers who were
 called as Kookas or Namdharis in the
 land of India,

And these lovers of liberty
 recognised him (Ram Singh) as their
 Satguru in the land of India

And thus Satguru Ram Singh began
 to preach his message of liberty
 and equality in the land India

* * * *

He awakened the sleeping spirit of
 Sikhism, and infused the sense
 of-service-and-liberty in the minds
 of the sons of India

Boycotted the British goods ; and none
cooperated with British policy in
the land of India.

Started civil disobedience and
preached the quit India theory ;
to the British from the land of India
And shook the deep-rooted
"British Empire Tree", in the
land of India.

* * * *

The British knowing him as the true
and the sincere son of the soil of
India.

More over knowing, that he is
becoming day by day political and
spiritual leader of the Kookas in the
land of India,

Started sinister propaganda against
him, as enemy No. 1 of the Indians
and specially of the Sikhs in the land
of India,

Hindus and Sikhs of high ranks,
including Highnesses were bribed
to voice against him, as the traitor
in the land of India,

And thus the British took him into
 prison, with the consent of the
 Todies of ^{the} then time in the land of
 India,

And was deported, and his followers
 were shot by cannons without any
 trial, in the land of 5 rivers in India.

* * * *

After his arrest the British sarcastically
 questioned him "Oh aged Baba",
 what will you do now for your
 land of India ?

You are caught, deported ; your
 followers have been put to death ;
 what did you achieve for you, and for
 your followers in the land of India ?

The holy Satguru smilingly said : "I
 have done what I wanted to do in
 the land of India

And have sowed a seed of liberty,
 which, in time to come will, sprout
 in every part and heart of India,

Then every child, young or old, man
 or woman ; will breath the spirit
 of "Ram Singh" (Liberty) in the land
 of India

And your empire and power will be
 rooted out entirely, from this land
 of India
 And it has really happened in 1947,
 when the British quited India, we
 have seen in the land of India.

* * *

The congress movement which was
 organised by Gandhiji, and others,
 is the same which was first started by
 this old and noble sage in India.
 And many patriots born, and died, in
 India ; and watered the plant of
 liberty, planted by this sage in
 India.
 And thus kept green and alive, the
 growing plant of liberty equality
 and fraternity sowed by this sage in
 India.
 And at last Gandhiji nourished,
 watered, and well protected the
 plant, planted since long ages by
 sages in India.
 And he completed the job, freed
 India, from the clutches of slavery,
 and died as patriot and sage in India.
 Thus Mahatma Gandhi became as
 "Father of Indian Nation", a big
 sage of the 20th century age in India.

MAHATMA GANDHI

In childhood, and youth, Gandhi was
but an ordinary man,
And was victim to Wordly attractions,
like an ordinary man,
Nobody could say that time, he
would become one day an extra-
ordinary man
A man of World fame, and name,
and so to be called "as Father of
Indian Nation" this ordinary man.

* * * *

God wanted him to crown with
political, spiritual and divine powers,
And so moulded his heart, changed
his destiny, by the magic of His
secret power
Sense of service for society, at large
was bestowed in him by Heavenly
power
Ahinsa, love for country and
humanity, was planted in his heart
by this Mighty power.

Gandhiji performed his duties
 successfully, what God wanted him to do,
 He conquered by love, and non-
 violence, what sword could not
 conquer and do,
 And thus was called Mahatma .
 (superman) by all rich middle and
 poor too,
 And when he died name of God
 (Hai Ram) no doubt was on his lips too.

* * * *

Mahatma Gandhi, champion of
 freedom, and of (blood-less
 revolution) died as martyr for the
 cause of nation too,
 Born as Hindu, preached as human-
 itarian, killed by Hindu, for the
 cause of Muslim too,
 Messages of sympathies, and
 condolence, swarmed like locusts,
 from all countries including Pakistan too,
 But sarcastic remark of Mr. Jinah,
 a Hindu leader, preacher of non-
 violence died by violence" is not
 worth forgetting too,

So Hindu Muslim and others, learn a
lesson from his sacrifice and, let
us become one from three or two,
Thus the scattered power of India,
will become unparallel in the World
within year or two.

THE RISING SUN IN THE EAST

—(PT. NEHRU)

A leader is one, who organises and leads
To the nation through thick and thin indeed
Looses never balance of mind, nor deceives
To those to whom he serves and leads.

Such like qualities, Pt. Nehru conceals
and breeds
Love and peace for man kind he speaks
When ever he speaks, he speaks of
home and foreign peace.
Peace alround, alround the Globe he
always speaks.

He is one who is loved by all nations
indeed
India is proud of course of him indeed
Guide and hope ; light and pride of
Asia indeed
Messenger of unity, harbinger of peace,
to my knowledge he is indeed.

JAI HIND.

28th July 1952

PL-0507

THE CAXTON PRESS
NEW DELHI